

RESIDENTIAL CODE COMPARISON  
2003 EDITION

Item #	Rule #	Code Section and Title	Code Change Summary
1.	R408.30701	Applicable code	Adopts the IRC 2003 edition and clarifies which sections are to be deleted.
2.	R408.30503	Approved materials and equipment	Provides for the approval of materials, equipment, and devices in accordance with the act.
3.	R408.30505	Work exempt from permit.	Clarifies that exemption from permit is for awnings that project not more than 54 " from exterior wall and not requiring additional support.
4.	R408.30506	Submittal documents.	Provides an alternative to the submission of truss drawings at the time of application for permit.
5.	R408.30508	Payment of fees.	Remains unchanged from previous rules.
6.	R408.30510	Use and occupancy.	Remains unchanged from previous rules.
7.	R408.30511	Violation penalties.	Remains unchanged from previous rules.
8.	R408.30512	Notice to owner.	Remains unchanged from previous rules.
9.	R408.30513	Definitions.	Amends and adds a definition for sunrooms
10.	R408.30514	Means of appeal.	Provides a reference to 1972 PA 230 for appeals.
11.	R408.30515	Ground snow loads.	Amends Figure R301.2(5) Ground Snow Loads
12.	R408.30518	Modular ramps.	Remains unchanged from previous rules.
13.	R408.30519	Treads and risers.	Stair geometry remains unchanged from previous rules, includes measurements for winder treads.
14.	R408.30520	Doors.	Added to provide minimum door width and height within residences.
15.	R408.30521	Elevation requirements.	Remains unchanged from previous rules.
16.	R408.30522	Minimum depth.	Amended to add references for frost protected footings and ASCE 32-01.
17.	R408.30526	Michigan uniform energy code.	Remains unchanged from previous rules.
18.	R408.30526	Sizing.	Added to include latest edition of ACCA Manuals
19.	R408.30531	Solvent cementing.	Clarifies the connection process.
20.	R408.30534	Individual venting required.	Amended to update references.
21.	R408.30536	General.	Relocation of rule from R 408.30537, Rule 537 to R 408.30536, Rule 536
22.	R408.30537	Separate outdoor electric space conditioning equipment.	Added to allow the service disconnect to be located immediately adjacent to the meter cabinet for separately metered outdoor electric space conditioning equipment.
23.	R408.30539	Plastic pipe.	Clarifies the connection process.
24.	R408.30540	Distance of trap from vent.	Retains last code cycle information and allows a 3 inch line to run at a grade of 1/8 inch per foot slope.
25.	R408.30541	Fuel burning appliances.	Added to require fuel burning appliances be 10 feet from a laundry chute
26.	R408.30542	Duct insulation/floor register location.	Added to list R- values for duct insulation.

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27.	R408-30543	Boiler low-water cutoff.	Amended require Low water cutoff on boilers.
28.	R408.30544	Concrete and masonry foundation dampproofing.	Amended to allow direct application of approved waterproofing on masonry in lieu of parging.
29.	R408.30545	Exterior covering.	Amended to require secondary moisture protection for exterior coverings.
30.	R408.30546	Minimum uniformly distributed live loads.	Amended to clarify attic loading and non-concurrent loads.
31.	R408.30547	Referenced standards.	Adopts the TPI1-2002 as the referenced standard for metal plate connected wood truss construction.
	<b>Code Sect.</b>	<b>2003 IRC Notable Changes</b>	<b>Code Change Summary</b>
1.	R311.4.3	Landings at doors	Exception 1, the reference to sliding doors was deleted for exterior stairways of 2 or fewer risers, other than the required exit door are exempt from landing requirements. Exception 2, the maximum 8" rise for thresholds at exterior door landings has been revised to 7 3/4".
2.	R311.5.3.2	Tread depth	Changes the minimum tread width required for winders, including circular stairs, from 11" to 10" as measured from the narrow side.
3.	R311.5.4	Landings for stairways	Limits each flight of stairs to a vertical rise 12' between floor levels or landings.
4.	R311.5.6	Handrails	Requires handrails on at least one side of stairs with 4 or more risers.
5.	R311.5.6.3	Handrail grip size	Handrail grip size have been completely rewritten and include classifications of Type I and II handrails.
6.	R312.2	Guard opening limitations	Ladder effect restriction removed. On open-sided stairs, opening restriction changed to 4 3/8".
7.	TR403.1	Minimum width of concrete or masonry footings	Changes the minimum footing width requirements.
8.	R403.1.4.1	Frost protection	Exception 1, added to the code to exempt decks not supported by a dwelling from the frost protection requirements.
9.	R403.3	Frost-protected shallow foundations	This section has been revised and R403.3.1, R403.3.1.1 and R403.1.2 have been added to provide prescriptive requirements for frost-protected shallow foundations attached to: unheated slab-on-ground structures: heated structures: and foundations extending below the frost line in accordance with section R403.1.4.
10.	R408.3	Access (crawl space)	Access to the crawl space through the perimeter has new minimum dimensions of 16" by 24". Such access cannot be located directly under a door. Where mechanical equipment is located in a crawl space the opening must be sized for the equipment in accordance M1305.1.4.
11.	R506.2.3	Vapor retarder	Vapor barrier requirements beneath concrete slab-on-grade construction

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			deleted for garages.
12.	R602.6.1	Drilling and notching of top plate	Attachment method has changed for the required tie on a top plate > 50%. Six 16d nails to eight 16d nails.
13.	R702.4.2	Ceramic tile/ Gypsum backer	Revised to prohibit installation of water-resistant gypsum board over a vapor retarder in a shower or tub compartment.
14.	R802.10.5	Truss-to-wall connection	Requires truss-to-wall connectors which are subject to wind pressures of less than 20 psf to be capable of resisting a minimum uplift of 175 pounds.
15.	R1001.6.1	Spark arrestors	New section provides requirements for spark arrestors.
16.	R1003	Masonry fireplaces	New section on dampers requires they be located a minimum of 8" above the top of the fireplace opening.
17.	P2604.3	Backfilling	Amended to insure that construction debris is not in place in trenched areas.
18.	P2706.2	Standpipes	Amended to clarify standpipe measurements begin at the trap weir.
19.	P2712.1	Approval	Amended to list the national standards to which water closets shall conform.
20.	P2722.1	General (fixture fittings)	Amended to address flexible water supplies in section P2904.7.
21.	P2724.1	Temperature-actuated flow reduction valves for individual fixture fittings	A standard is added to address flow-reduction devices for individual fixture fittings, ASSE 1062.
22.	P2903.5	Water hammer	Amended to clarify that quick closing valves shall have water hammer arrestors conforming to ASSE 1010 to protect distribution piping.
23.	P2903.9.3	Valve requirements	Amended to require individual shut off valves on the supply to each fixture except tubs and showers.
24.	P3111.1	Type of fixture (combination drain and vent)	Amended to prevent food waste grinder discharge into a drain waste and vent system and allows the vertical drop in a drain waste .
25.	P3201.7	Size of fixture traps	Added to clarify that the trap shall not be larger than the pipe it serves.
26.	R202	Definitions (Building Drain)	Provides clarification of where the 30" measurement is taken.
27.	E3802.11	Bedroom outlets	New section requires arc-fault circuit interrupters in bedrooms for all branch circuits that supply 125-volt, single-phase, 15-and 20-ampere outlets.
28.	AG105.2	Outdoor swimming pool	Provides maximum mesh sizes for chain link fences serving as a required barrier.
29.	AG106	Entrapment protection for swimming pool and spa suction outlets	Provides suction fitting, atmospheric vacuum relief system, dual drain separation and pool cleaner fitting requirements.